

HOUSE RESOLUTION 214

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commemorate the 23rd anniversary of the Vanderbilt LifeFlight program.

WHEREAS, the Vanderbilt LifeFlight program began in June of 1984, with a Bell 206 Long Range helicopter, and initiated operations on July 5, 1984; and

WHEREAS, today, LifeFlight has expanded to a four helicopter system with bases in Lebanon, Clarksville, Mt. Pleasant, and Tullahoma; LifeFlight's American Eurocopter EC145 and BK-117 helicopters provide the industry's top performance for air medical transport applications; and

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt LifeFlight is the critical care air medical transport service of Vanderbilt University, supporting Middle Tennessee's only Level 1 Trauma Center; and

WHEREAS, the LifeFlight program provides the highest possible level of care to the people in its service area while operating in the safest manner; moreover, the program's highly-trained personnel strive to provide quality education to their colleagues in the emergency services field; and

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt LifeFlight flew more than 2,700 rotor wing transports in 2006, serving an area within a 150-mile radius of Nashville and utilizing a dual critical care nurse-emergency medical technician care team; and

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt LifeFlight flew more than 300 fixed wing transports in 2006, from both domestic and international destinations, and has the ability to transport patients up to 2,200 miles non-stop; LifeFlight employs a dedicated pilot and medical crew consisting of flight nurses, flight paramedics, physicians, nurse practitioners, and respiratory therapists; and

WHEREAS, providing more than 500 Pediatric Angel Critical Care transports in 2006 alone, LifeFlight provides exemplary subspecialty interfacility transport services for neonatal patients; and

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt Medical Center provided over 195 million dollars in charity uncompensated care in 2006 alone, of which LifeFlight-Trauma accounted for over 50 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt LifeFlight initiates the Pre-Designated Emergency Landing Area program that assists local EMS services in identifying safe and efficient landing areas for LifeFlight, has hosted the international conference of the Association of Air Medical Services, and has received the MBB Aeromedical Safety Award; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that this legislative body recognize and commend the commitment, dedication, and invaluable service of the men and women who make the LifeFlight program a success; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we pause in our deliberations to commemorate the 23rd anniversary of the Vanderbilt LifeFlight program and recognize the program's staff for their exemplary service in providing the highest level of critical care air medical transport service to the Nashville area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.